absorption the oxygen is set free to join the superfluous nitrogen liberated by the other processes. The animal and vegetable kingdoms are thus made to balance and sustain each other according to a general law; but this, be it observed, by means of the most skilfully arranged adjustment of the properties of bodies to each other.

The different powers which bodies have of absorbing and radiating heat also furnish illustrations of the skilful adjustments with which nature abounds. The grass and foliage absorb heat in the summer season during the day, and again radiate it into the clear atmosphere at night, till the plants are so reduced in temperature as to congeal the moisture floating in the air into the dew necessary tfo refresh them. Every separate plant has its peculiar power in this respect, and by means of the colour of its leaves keeps the measure of heat, and seeks the measure of dew needful to its wellbeing. How curious, too, that circuit according to which the earth receives heat from the beams of the sun while it is above the horizon, again to give out, when the sun has set, that heat to the air, whose temperature is thus equalized ! There is a singular counterpart process by which moisture is evaporated into the airJby the heat during the day, and again given back to the earth at night, fulfilling important functions in both these positions.

Such circuits as these abound in the works of God, and indicate a nice and constantly sustained adjustment. There is such a rotation in that Bysk'in according to which rude matter is first taken into vegetable composition, then enters the animal frame as food, and in the end returns to the ground to restore its proper composition. Another equally beautiful circle is described by those processes in which moisture is evaporated from the land and sea, refreshes the air above, and thence

descends upon the ground to revive its life, arid to gush out in streams; the waters of which, after serving many bountiful purposes, again find their way back to the ocean. There is doubtless a similar balancing in the method by which the ocean is kept in a healthy state, suited to the organisms which live in it. Aquaviviuria have been formed in which any pollution produced by plants has been counteracted by the introduction of ce&fcain molluscs, and the water maintained in purity for yearn. This artificial process seems to be founded upon, and to imply a natural bal-